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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/772,060	01/29/2001	Mohamed Ahmed Ali	RD-27384USA	3502

6147 7590 06/02/2004

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY  
GLOBAL RESEARCH  
PATENT DOCKET RM. BLDG. K1-4A59  
SCHENECTADY, NY 12301-0008

EXAMINER
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MOSLEHI, FARHOOD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2004

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/772,060

Applicant(s)

ALI ET AL.

Examiner

Farhood Moslehi

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-69 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-69 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-69 are presented for examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Khan et al. (6,332,150) (hereinafter Khan).
4. As per claim 1, Khan teaches a system for performing engineering design, the system comprising: a client for receiving first design information from a first source (e.g. Figures 1 and 4); a server coupled to said client via a network, said client uploading said first design information to said server (e.g. Figure 1); said server determining whether said first source has authorization to submit said first design information, notifying a second source of said first design information and transmitting said first design information to said second source (e.g. Figures 6 and 9); said server storing said design information (e.g. col. 1, lines 54-60).
5. As per claim 2, Khan teaches the system wherein: said receiving said first design information includes said server receiving said first design information via a

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network (e.g. Figure 1); said notifying said second source includes said server notifying said second source via said network (e.g. col. 2, lines 50-55); and said transmitting said first design information includes said server transmitting said first design information via said network (e.g. col. 2, lines 11-15).

6. As per claim 3, Khan teaches the system, wherein said network is the Internet (e.g. col. 2, lines 11-15).

7. As per claim 4, Khan teaches the system, further including said server: notifying a next source of said first design information (e.g. Figure 6); and transmitting said first design information to said next source (e.g. Figure 6).

8. As per claim 5, Khan teaches the system, further including said server: receiving next design information from said next source (e.g. Figure 7); determining whether said next source has authorization to submit said next design information (e.g. col. 5, lines 1-6); determining whether to notify said first source of said next design information (e.g. Figure 9); notifying said first source of said next design information (e.g. Figure 9); and transmitting said next design information to said first source (e.g. Figure 9).

9. As per claim 6, Khan teaches the system, further including said server: receiving second design information from said second source (e.g. Figure 7); determining whether said second source has authorization to submit said second design information (e.g. col. 5, lines 1-6); notifying said first source of said second design information (e.g. Figure 7); and transmitting said second design information to said first source (e.g. Figure 9).

10. As per claim 7, Khan teaches the system, further including said server: notifying a next source of said second design information (e.g. Figure 6); and transmitting said second design information to said next source (e.g. Figure 6).

11. As per claim 8, Khan teaches the system, further including said server: notifying said next source of said first design information (e.g. Figure 6); and transmitting said first design information to said next source (e.g. Figure 6).

12. As per claim 9, Khan teaches the system, further including said server: receiving next design information from said next source (e.g. Figure 7); determining whether said next source has authorization to submit said next design information (e.g. col. 5, lines 1-6); notifying said second source of said next design information (e.g. Figure 9); and transmitting said next design information to said second source (e.g. Figure 9).

13. As per claim 10, Khan teaches the system, further including said server: receiving next design information from said next source (e.g. Figure 7); determining whether said next source has authorization to submit said next design information (e.g. col. 5, lines 1-6); notifying said first source of said next design information (e.g. Figure 9); and transmitting said next design information to said first source (e.g. Figure 9).

14. As per claims 11-69, they are rejected for similar reasons as claims 1-10. The citations given for claims 1-10 map equally to the elements of claims 11-69.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farhood Moslehi whose telephone number is 703-305-8646. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 703-305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

fm

  
ZARNI MAUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER